

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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25X1

25X1A

COUNTRY Greece
 SUBJECT Sale of Gold on Athens Market
 25X1C

REPORT NO.

DATE DISTR.

8 May 1953

NO. OF PAGES

1

REQUIREMENT NO.

25X1

REFERENCES

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Athens money market is said to have been "flooded" by large quantities of gold bars from Italy. These bars are one kilo in weight, and of 24 karats (Venetian); they were being sold for 109 British gold sovereigns per kilo, which was cheaper than the gold pound by about 15 percent.
2. The gold is allegedly of Soviet origin and the bars have a stamped impression in "fire-red color" denoting the purity.
3. There are also circulating round, flat-shaped gold (pieces) of 82 grams, each of which is also stamped. These sell for nine gold pounds (sterling) each.
4. Recently, the demand in Athens for gold has been more than met. Consequently, these gold bars and pieces are also to be sold in Turkey.

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